



Pol 27 Camb
Department of State
TELEGRAM

139

R

CONFIDENTIAL 169

PAGE 01 PHNOM 01004 231636Z

53
ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 EUR-20 IO-13
CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10 P-03
RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 UPW-01 RSR-01 NEA-13 OPR-02 SR-01
ORM-03 /123 W

009456

O R 231430Z MAY 70
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 892
INFO RUMTBK /AMEMBASSY BANGKOK 356
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
RUMJSN/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 45
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
RUEHBAZXAMEMBASSY WELLINGTON 27
USMISSION USUN
CINCPAC

DIA
RHMSMVA/COMUSMACV
7TH AF
RHMUABA/7/13AF

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION ONE OF TWO PHNOM PENH 1004
CINCPAC FOR POLAD AND J-2

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY Tublay DATE 10/9/80

RD ☐ EXT. DATE ☐

TS ☐ REASON(S) ☐

ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐

DECLASSIFIED ☒ RELEASABLE ☒

RELEASE DENIED ☐

PA or FOI EXEMPTIONS ☐

32
CONFIDENTIAL

Phnom Penh 1004
5-23-70



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 01004 231636Z

JOINT STATE/DEFENSE MESSAGE

SUBJ: CAMBODIAN SITREP

1. DURING PAST WEEK, INTERNAL POLITICAL SITUATION REMAINED GENERALLY UNCHANGED. HOWEVER, GOC APPEARS TO BE BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND NEED TO INFORM CAMBODIANS OF NATURE OF VC/NVN THREAT. TO THIS END, LEADERS OF BOTH BUDDHIST ORDERS MADE APPEALS TO WORLD FOR HELP. WIDESPREAD DOMESTIC PUBLICITY MADE THEM EQUALLY USEFUL INTERNALLY. TOWARD END OF WEEK, LON NOL MADE TWO SPEECHES TO NATION. PART OF FIRST (PHNOM PENH-992) CALLED ON PEOPLE TO WAKE FROM LETHARGY WHILE SECOND WAS HARSH CALL FOR PATRIOTISM WHICH ENDED WITH ANNOUNCEMENT THAT MARTIAL LAW WILL GO INTO EFFECT JUNE 1. MARTIAL LAW WILL BE APPLIED TO CAMBODIANS WHO FAIL TO COMPLY WITH THOSE ACTIONS CALLED FOR BY THE GOVERNMENT (SEE PARA 5).

2. THERE WAS CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY IN THE EXTERNAL POLITICAL FIELD AS GOC CONTINUED ACTIONS TO EXPAND NEW-FOUND RELATIONS AMONG ASIAN NATIONS. PRIME MINISTER YEM SAMBAUR REVISITED BANGKOK

AFTER DJAKARTA CONFERENCE AND IS EXPECTED TO VISIT SAIGON JUNE 1. A. ACCORDING TO FBIS REPORT FROM THAI PRESS, THAILAND PLANNING TO SEND 30 MAN DELEGATION TO PHNOM PENH NEXT WEEK. DELEGATION TO BE HEADED BY DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND ARMY COMMANDER

IN-CHIEF. DEPUTY LEADER WILL BE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND CHIEF OF STAFF. DISCUSSIONS WILL CONCERN POSSIBLE THAI ASSISTANCE AND FURTHER TALKS ON AGREEMENTS ALREADY MADE TO REOPEN ROAD, RAIL, SEA AND AIR LINKS BETWEEN TWO NATIONS.

B. IN ADDITION TO THAIS, OTHER NATIONS, ACCORDING TO FBIS REPORTS AND OTHER SOURCES, ACTIVELY CONSIDERING VARIOUS FORMS OF ASSISTANCE. PHILIPPINES HAVE ANNOUNCED DECISION TO EXTEND HUMANITARIAN AID IN FORM OF CLOTHING, FOOD AND MEDICINES. EMBASSY HAS REPORTS THAT TAIWAN PLANNING TO SEND TWO MAN TEAM TO PHNOM PENH.

3. RE-ESTABLISHMENT GOC/GVN DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WILL APPARENTLY TAKE PLACE AFTER CAMBODIAN FONMIN VISIT TO SAIGON. PRESENT STATE OF RELATIONS AT OFFICIAL LEVEL SEEMS GOOD, ALTHOUGH CONTINUING FRICTION BASED ON HISTORIC ENMITIES CAN BE EXPECTED. ANNOUNCEMENT

CONFIDENTIAL



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PHNOM 01004 231636Z

OF FORMATION OF ASSISTANCE COMMITTEES, DISTRIBUTION OF SOME RELIEF SUPPLIES, AND APPARENT AGREEMENT TO PERMIT GVN MISSION HAVE RADIO TIME ARE SOME OF ACTIONS GOC HAS TAKEN TO EASE CRITICISM AND PLACATE GVN.

4. FURTHER GOC/GVN PROBLEM IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE IS QUESTION OF REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE RESIDENTS. AT PRESENT TIME, GOC STATEMENTS INDICATE REPATRIATION WILL CONTINUE. HOWEVER, HEAD GVN MISSION TELLING CORRESPONDENTS THAT REPATRIATION WILL CEASE FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN DAY. (SUPPLY AND HOSPITAL SHIPS WHICH ARRIVED MAY 22 ARE NOT APPARENTLY FOR REPATRIATION MOVEMENT DOWN RIVER). IF VIETNAMESE SECURITY SITUATION DOES NOT IMPROVE, GVN/GOC WILL REVIEW NEED TO BEGIN REPATRIATION AGAIN.

A. ACCORDING TO EMBASSY SOURCES, GVN MISSION CHIEF EXPECTS VIETNAMESE TO LEAVE DEPARTURE CAMPS AND RETURN TO HOMES. FOR MANY WHO HAVE SOLD HOMES, THIS IMPOSSIBLE; THOSE WHO LEFT JOBS WILL FIND IT DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN THEM AGAIN. PRIOR TO MOVING TO CAMPS, MANY SOLD ALL POSSESSIONS AND HAVE BEEN USING FUNDS TO BUY FOOD WHILE AWAITING TRANSPORTATION. RESOLUTION THESE PROBLEMS UNCLEAR AT THIS POINT. IN MEANTIME, SEASONS FIRST HEAVY RAINS HAVE TURNED CAMPS INTO QUAGMIRES. UNFAVORABLE PRESS STORIES CERTAIN TO APPEAR.

B. ANOTHER PROBLEM GOC/GVN HAVE IS THAT STORIES OF ARVN MISBEHAVIOR CONTINUE TO CIRCULATE IN PHNOM PENH. FACT THAT STORIES MAY BE EXAGGERATED OR UNTRUE, WHICH DOES NOT APPEAR TO BE THE CASE, IF OF NO CONSEQUENCE TO AVERAGE CAMBODIAN.

5. ON MAY 22 LON NOL ISSUED ORDER OF DAY WHICH SEEMS DESIGNED TO MEET SOME OF CRITICISM OF GOC'S POLICY TOWARD VIETNAMESE INHABITANTS. HE SAID THAT FOLLOWING REPATRIATION OF VIETNAMESE TO SOUTH VIETNAM, ENEMY AGENTS AS WELL AS TROUBLEMAKERS, TOOK ACTIONS TO THE PREJUDICE OF VIETNAMESE COMMUNITY. AMONG THESE ACTIONS, LON NOL NOTED ILLEGAL OCCUPATION VIETNAMESE HOUSES, ILLEGAL APPROPRIATION VIETNAMESE GOODS, AND EXTORTION OF FUNDS BY THREATENING TO IMPLICATE THE VIETNAMESE IN POLITICAL AFFAIRS. THESE ACTIONS CAST SERIOUS DISCREDIT ON NATION, CAUSE TROUBLE AND CONFUSION OVER GOVERNMENT POLICY WHICH IS TO TRY TO RE-ESTABLISH ORDER BY ALL MEANS AND TO MAINTAIN FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN CAMBODIAN AND VIETNAMESE PEOPLE, HE SAID.

A. FANK ORDERED TO RESPECT LETTER AND SPIRIT OF ORDER OF DAY. SECTION AND SUB-SECTION CHIEFS IN PHNOM PENH ORDERED TO INSTRUCT CAMBODIANS TO ACTIVELY PROTECT "OUR VIETNAMESE FRIENDS." ILLEGAL

CONFIDENTIAL



Department of State

TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 PHNOM 01004 231636Z

OCCUPATION OF THEIR HOUSES IS TO BE STOPPED. OFFENDERS WILL BE SWIFTLY AND SEVERELY PUNISHED. LON NOL CONCLUDES.

6. ON MAY 22, LON NOL ISSUED APPEAL TO KHMERS, RECALLING THEIR WARRIOR HERITAGE AND BUDDHIST IDEALS. HE DENOUNCED CORRUPT PERSONS, PROFITEERS, THOSE INDIFFERENT TO THE STRUGGLE, DESERTERS, AND RUMOR MONGERS AS TRAITORS WHO PLAY VC/NVN GAME.

A. HE CALLED FOR FIRM ATTITUDE IN FACE OF VC/NVNA AGGRESSION; FOR SUPPRESSION OF THOSE WHO LISTEN TO CALUMNIES OF RADIO PEKING, AND THOSE WHO SPREAD FALSE STORIES WITH THE GOAL OF DEMORALIZING

ARMED FORCES; AND FOR SUPPRESSION OF THOSE WHO REFUSE TO FIGHT AGAINST ENEMY. CAMBODIANS ASKED TO REFRAIN FROM PROVIDING FOOD AND RICE TO VC/NVNA; TO HIDE FROM INVADERS AND TO SEIZE THEIR ARMS FOR FANK. SHOULD CAMBODIAN TROOPS MISBEHAVE, VICTIMS SHOULD REPORT THESE ACTIONS TO COUNSELORS WHO ARE WITH EACH CAMBODIAN COMBAT UNIT.

B. LON NOL CALLED FOR RECRUITS TO STRENGTHEN FANK. (HE OFFERED ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES TO JOIN ARMY WHEN HE SAID, "ONCE IN THE ARMY, OUR COMPATRIOTS HAVE THE OCCASION TO LEARN THE OCCULT SCIENCES PRACTICED BY OUR ANCESTORS, WHICH WILL ENABLE THEM TO ESCAPE THE ENEMY FIRE...)

C. LON NOL CLOSED APPEAL BY STATING THAT THOSE WHO DID NOT FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS WOULD BE LIABLE UNDER MARTIAL LAW TO BE DECLARED JUNE 1.

D. COMMENT: TO WESTERN EARS, SPEECH DISPLAYS DISMAYING LACK OF POLITICAL SOPHISTICATION REQUIRED TO RALLY THE COUNTRY. DESPITE STRONG LANGUAGE, ONE WONDERS IF GOC CAN TAKE MEASURES AGAINST ACTIONS WHICH ARE BANNED WITHOUT SOME INTERNAL REPERCUSSIONS. GP-4.
RIVES

CONFIDENTIAL



Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 168

PAGE 01 PHNOM 01004 231649Z

42
ACTION EA-15

INFO OCT-01 EUR-20 NEA-13 CCO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00
IO-13 CIAE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-07 L-04 NSAE-00 NSC-10
P-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-20 UPW-01 OPR-02 RSR-01 ORM-03
SR-01 /123 W

009465

O R 231430Z MAY 70
FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 893
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY DJAKARTA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY RANGOON
AMEMBASSY SAIGON
AMEMBASSY SEOUL
RUMJSN/AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE 46
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON
USMISSION USUN
CINCPAC
DIA
RHMSMVA/COMUSMACV
7TH AF
RHMUABA/7713AF

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION TWO OF TWO PHNOM PENH 1004

7. MILITARY EVENTS OF PAST WEEK GAVE CLEARER INDICATIONS OF
PROBABLE ENEMY INTENTIONS. CAMBODIAN MILITARY PRESENCE IN NORTH.

0310041030
CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL
Department of State
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PHNOM 01004 231649Z

EAST CAMBODIA, COMPRISING THE LIGHTLY POPULATED REGION EAST OF THE MEKONG FROM THE LAOTIAN PANHANDLE SOUTH TO THE PENETRATIONS MADE BY US/VN FORCES, WAS REMOVED WITH THE LOSS OF STUNG TRENG TOWN. ENEMY PRESSURE OF A WEEK AGO ON KOMPONG CHAM TOWN HAS BEEN SUCCESSFULLY REDUCED. THE ENEMY NOW, TO ALL PURPOSES, CONTROLS THE MEKONG CORRIDOR FROM KOMPONG CHAM TO LAOS. ENEMY PRESENCE ALSO NOTED WEST OF THE MEKONG AS SMALL CLASHES, AND BRIDGE DESTRUCTION, INDICATE VC/NVNA MAY BE TRYING TO REACH THE TONLE SAP WITH ITS LARGE VIETNAMESE POPULATION, IN EFFECT OUTFLANKING PHNOM PENH AND CUTTING ONE LAND ROUTE TO THAILAND.

8. IN THE SOUTH HOWEVER, FANK AND ARVN PRESSURE HAS NOT ONLY MADE SIGNIFICANT INROADS ON THE ENEMY IN THE HEAVILY POPULATED SOUTHERN PROVINCES, BUT HAS CLEARED TWO OF THE MAIN ROADS FROM PHNOM PENH TO THE GULF OF SIAM AND FOILED VC/NVA ATTEMPTS TO SECURE TWO SMALL PORTS ON THE GULF. ENEMY FORCES SCATTERED AND FORCED TOWARDS SOUTHWEST. FANK GENERALLY RECEIVED A PLUS FOR ITS MILITARY EFFORTS IN THIS AREA, GIVING THE GOVERNMENT AND POPULATION A BOOST IN MORALE. LARGEST ENEMY TROOP CONCENTRATIONS NOW DUE EAST AND NORTHEAST OF THE CAPITAL IN PREY VENG AND KOMPONG CHAM PROVINCES LOCATED EAST OF THE MEKONG.

9. EMBASSY INFORMED BY FRENCH PLANTATION SOURCES ON MAY 23 THAT VIETNAMESE SKY RAIDERS, GUIDED BY A SPOTTER AIRCRAFT, BOMBED AND SEVERELY DAMAGED PLANTATION PROCESSING PLANT, POWER PLANT AND ADMINISTRATIVE AREA OF PLANTATION AT CHUP. NUMBER OF CASUALTIES UNKNOWN EXCEPT EMBASSY'S SOURCES NOTED BOMBING TOOK PLACE DURING WORKING HOURS. CHUP, 90 KMS NORTHEAST OF PHNOM PENH, IS LARGEST RUBBER PLANTATION IN CAMBODIA AND HAS BEEN MAJOR SITE OF VC/NVNA STAGING AREAS FOR TROOPS FLEEING FROM ALLIED INCURSIONS FROM NORTHERN II CORPS OF RVN. STRIKES ON PLANTATION'S ADMINISTRATIVE AND PROCESSING AREA EFFECTIVELY PUTS PLANTATION OUT OF BUSINESS AND 20,000 WORKERS AND DEPENDENTS OFF THE PAYROLL. EMBASSY'S FRENCH SOURCE REMARKED BITTERLY THAT ENEMY FORCES WILL NOW RECEIVE BONUS SUPPLY OF NEW RECRUITS.

A. EMBASSY SOURCE INDICATES US FORCES HAVE REPAIRED BRIDGES ON ROUTE 7 BETWEEN MIMOT AND KREK THOUGH REMAINING BRIDGES WEST TO TONLE BET DESTROYED BY VC/NVA.

10. MILITARY BRIEFER MAY 23 HAD NO SPECIFIC ANNOUNCEMENTS TO MAKE EXCEPT THAT SWEEP OPERATIONS WERE CONTINUING IN THE EASTERN AND

CONFIDENTIAL



Department of State TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PHNOM 01004 231649Z

SOUTHERN PROVINCES. BRIEFER SAID THE ENEMY IS DISAPPOINTED IN BEING UNABLE TO CONTROL KEY PROVINCES AS PLANNED. "THE ENEMY IS LIKE A FRESHWATER FISH IN SALT WATER."

A. NEWSMEN INQUIRED WHETHER NEW RESTRICTIONS ON TRAVEL OF DIPLOMATS OUTSIDE PHNOM PENH REALLY FOR PURPOSE OF CONTROLLING REMAINING COMMUNISTS. BRIEFER RESPONDED MEASURE WAS FOR GENERAL SECURITY OF DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY. FIELDING ANOTHER QUESTION, BRIEFER SAID THIS DID NOT IMPLY LACK OF SECURITY OUTSIDE OF CAPITAL.

B. MILITARY COMMUNIQUE NOTED REPULSE OF HEAVY ENEMY ATTACKS ON TONLE BET BY GROUND FORCES, ARTILLERY AND RIVER ROAD DURING NIGHT OF 18-19 MAY WHICH LEFT 200 ENEMY DEAD WITH ONE FRIENDLY KILLED AND 20 WOUNDED. DURING P.M. MAY 20, KHMER KROM BNS, ACCORDING TO COMMUNIQUE, "CLASHED HEAVILY" AT TONLE BET WITH VC/NVA, KILLING 10 ENEMY AND RECOVERING 5 WEAPONS. THE KHMER KROM TROOPS HAD 2 LIGHTLY WOUNDED. AS OF WRITING OF COMMUNIQUE, FIGHTING CONTINUED IN CENTER OF TONLE BET.

C. COMMUNIQUE ALSO NOTED THAT FRIENDLY FORCES MAY 22, DISLODGED VC/NVA FROM THE FACTORY AT CHAKREI TING IN KAMPOT PROVINCE, HAVING KILLED 15 ENEMY AND RECOVERED 70 WEAPONS.

1. LOCAL LANGUAGE PRESS MAY 23 REPORTED CAPTURE IN PHNOM PENH, MAY 5, OF SEVEN VC AGENTS WHO HAD INFILTRATED INTO THE CITY'S THIRD DISTRICT. ONE OF SEVEN WAS A WOMAN AND ONE WAS DISGUISED IN CAMBODIAN SUB-LIEUTENANT'S UNIFORM.

12. KHMER EKREACH (INDEPENDENT KHMER) ASKS RHETORICALLY IN ITS COMMENTARY OF MAY 23 IF CAMBODIA, AS A SIGNATORY OF THE GENEVA ACCORDS, SHOULD PARTICIPATE IN MILITARY ALLIANCES. REPLYING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, THE COMMENTATOR INDICATES THAT THE GENEVA ACCORDS DOES PERMIT CAMBODIA TO CALL UPON FRIENDLY NATIONS FOR ASSISTANCE.

A. KHMER EKREACH ALSO NOTES THAT THE SALVATION YOUTH COMMITTEE HAS RECRUITED 6,000 YOUNG MEN FOR THE ARMY AND THAT THAILAND HAS DECIDED TO ASSIST CAMBODIA WITH MUNITIONS AND TRAINING PERSONNEL.

13. TWO CAMBODIAN CARTOONS OF THE DAY SHOW MAO TSE-TUNG SETTING FUSE TO A CANNON POINTED TOWARDS CAMBODIA AND LOADED WITH HUMAN CANNON BALL, SIHANOUK. THE CARTOON IS TITLED "NO COMMENT". THE OTHER CARTOON SHOWS A UN SOLDIER BOOING A VIET CONG, WITH CAPTION "WE WANT THE INTERVENTION OF THE BLUE HELMETS."

GP-4.
RIVES

CONFIDENTIAL